



Open Space Committee DRAFT

Date: Thurs, September 23, 2021

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Present: Ann LeRoyer, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Emily Nink, Brian Kelder, Wendy Richter, Kelly Lynema

Absent: Teresa DeBenedictis, David White, Phil Lasker

Guests: Krista Moravec, Lena Porell, Eliza Hatch, Brian McBride

Minutes

1. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

- a. The committee reviewed the meeting minutes dated from 5/27/2021, 6/24/2021, 7/22/2021 and 8/26/2021 and they were approved by all members present.

2. Open Space and Recreation Plan 2022-2029 Update

- a. Krista and Lena from Horsley Witten joined the meeting to review the community survey, project schedule, and other aspects of the OSRP update process. Nearly 820 surveys have been completed, and the survey deadline was extended until October 4, as posted on the Town website. Members are encouraged to do more follow-up with their community contact groups, and the Town will send out another survey alert. Kelly will try to follow up with Arlington EATS and the Housing Authority.
- b. The committee members shared experiences of "listening posts" and were encouraged to schedule more outreach opportunities through September. Committee members are requested to take photos of engagement as it occurs to share with the consultants for inclusion in the plan.
- c. We also discussed the draft Sections 2-5 of the OSRP, which WH had sent via email earlier and were circulated for member comments. Some comments so far are that much fact-checking is still needed to update accomplishments, community characteristics, and environmental challenges. Other questions involved the required and optional maps, and the site maps in chapter 5, which also need to be updated. Kelly offered to help with this, along with Adam Kurowski who created them. Elisabeth raised a concern about including more information on the smaller parks, playgrounds and other local open spaces that are not highlighted elsewhere. She and Ann will work on expanding the list and documenting those sites.

- d. Next Steps – At the Oct 28 meeting, we will review the next set of revised draft sections 2-5. Krista and Lena will attend the OSC meeting on November 11, and we set the next virtual community forum for Tuesday, November 16 at 7 pm. On November 11 we will review plans and materials for the forum, which will be distributed in advance. The focus will be on summarizing the survey results and needs analysis, and a condensed list of goals and objectives. WH will develop some interactive tools to use during the forum to get feedback.

4. CPA/CDBG Projects

- a. Contracted work is still underway at Arlington Reservoir and Wellington Park. Construction at Wellington Park is slated to finish in Fall 2021; Reservoir work is ongoing and will continue into the spring.

5. 40B comprehensive permit applications

- a. ZBA public hearings on Thorndike Place (Mugar) are expected to close after their meeting on Tues. October 5.
- b. ZBA public hearings on 1165R Mass Ave (Mirak) have closed. The project is approved and ZBA is working on the final decision and conditions.

6. Other news

- a. Kelly reminded the committee about the Housing Plan and a roundtable discussion scheduled on October 5. She also provided a link to an interactive housing map and encouraged members to participate in these various ways to provide feedback. The Housing Plan and OSRP are complementary and will share some information for future planning.

7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:24PM

2021 Meeting Dates (usually 4th Thursday of the month but note exceptions): October 28, November 11 and December 9 (due to holidays)